

# RHETORIC

Vol. 4, No. 4

Fitchburg State College

Oct. 27, 1977

## McKay Jr. High to close

By LINDA J. MASON

On Monday, September 19, 1977 the Fitchburg School Committee unanimously voted not to re-open McKay Campus Jr. High School in the Fall of 1978. The decision that evening passed very smoothly; however, it has not been taken lightly by parents, teachers and other concerned citizens of McKay.

According to Supt. Richard C. Wallace, Jr., a major decline in enrollment has made it necessary to take the step in deciding to close down the Jr. High School.

Two factors contributing to the enrollment decrease are the decline in the birth rate and the general tendency of families to move away from the city, said Wallace. The decision to close the Jr. High was the result of a decrease of 595 students in the city's public schools this year,

said Wallace.

McKay Jr. High is the smallest Junior High School in the city with an enrollment of 212 students.

Wallace said that the 212 students presently enrolled at McKay could be absorbed by the two city operated Junior High Schools, B.F. Brown and Memorial Jr. High. 60 per cent of the McKay students could be absorbed by B.F. Brown and 40 per cent by Memorial.

Wallace estimated the city would realize an annual savings of \$226,132. The present contract is costing the city \$240,692.

Wallace further estimated, the cost of transportation as a result of the move at \$14,560. This would be the annual cost to transport students now attending McKay to the city schools. Only two additional buses would need to be hired because now many of the

students would be within walking distance of their homes.

Although committee members took issue with the enrollment decline as significant evidence for the closing of the Jr. High at McKay, Dr. Quintino Rollo and other committee members spoke favorably about the school from a personal vantage.

President Vincent J. Mara said of the decision to close, "It's regrettable because a better school is not to be found in the city."

### Principals Speak Out

Richard Condon and John Mazeika, Principal and Vice-Principal respectively feel that the McKay School offers a program which in unequalled throughout the city. Condon cited the close working relationship between the school and the college. He said that students from many fields get involved

with McKay students. Nursing majors with the health care of students; Psychology majors with the counseling aspect; and practicum students on a one-to-one basis and in small groups. McKay also provides an invaluable learning experience for the student teacher, said Condon. Condon and Mazeika are sad-

dened by the present decision to close the Junior High.

A news release, regarding the closing of McKay Junior High School, highlighted the events which lead up to the present decision:

Dr. Wallace informed

See McKay Page 9

## Biofeedback explored

By PATRICIA A. KELLY

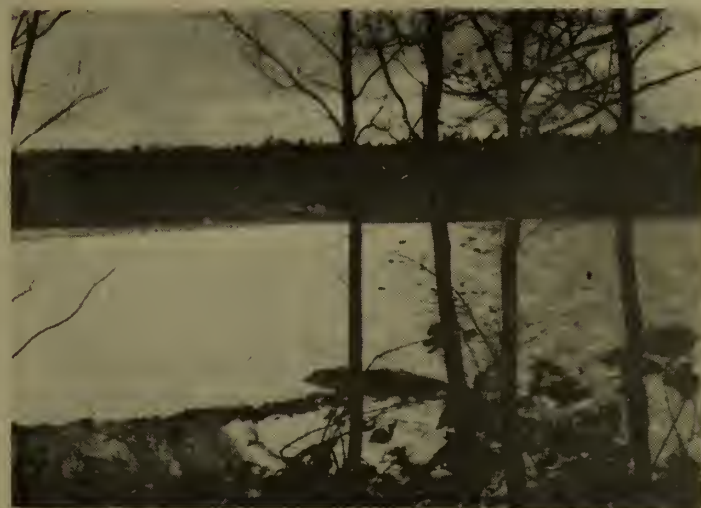
Have you ever had one of those days when you just feel lousy, but weren't sure why? If only your body could talk to you and tell you the real problem...

"Hey kid, you're wondering why you've got a headache this morning? Well, I'll tell you that I'm just sick and tired of that math class we have. It's giving us tension in the neck everytime you cram for those exams."... If only it were that simple.

By better understanding precisely what tension your body is experiencing, you stand a better chance of controlling it. To an extent this is what biofeedback attempts to perform.

Biofeedback puts to use monitoring instruments (usually electric) to detect and amplify internal physiologic processes within the body. Thus for example, a person with a tension headache can know precisely from moment to moment what the level of tension (contraction) is in various parts of his body.

On Thursday, October 13, the Psychology Club at Fitchburg State was fortunate enough to observe contemporary biofeedback research. On the extended invitation of Dr. Muholland, well known for his research in this field, the Psychology Club visited his lab at the lab at the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Bedford, MA. At the lab we were clued in on the recent research they were conducting and a few of the goals they were striving to obtain. Their main concern was quantitating results of their previous experiment which would help to recognize and define levels of learning problems.



### It's getting closer

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME you took pictures like this one? Why don't you submit your photography, artwork, poetry, or short stories to the college literary magazine. In order to make this year's magazine meaningful, we need your work. The deadline for the literary magazine is getting closer. November 18 is the last day and it's less than a month away. If you haven't enjoyed the literary magazine, why don't you do something about it. Submit your work and come to the next staff meeting November 3rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Commuter's Cafeteria of the Student Union. We would appreciate any suggestions you have. Remember, it's YOUR literary magazine. Hope to see you at our next staff meeting.

(Photo by Kim Schild)

## Interview:

### Dean Christine Cosgrove

By CATHY LONDON

"I'm going to talk to the Dean."  
"Really? What kind of trouble are you in?"

Trouble? I was shocked at that response. Trouble was the farthest thing from my mind when I mentioned that I was going to talk to the Dean --- Dean Cosgrove.

Dean Cosgrove's is a name that evokes enthusiastic response. I mentioned her and people said, "She cares."

"She's young and understands students." "I like her. Chris Cosgrove does a lot for this school."

Dean Cosgrove's poise and enthusiasm for her role as Dean of Undergraduate Studies showed immediately when I talked with her.

"If you could change three things about F.S.C. right now, what would they be?"

She smiled, then looked serious and replied, "First, I'd arrange for increased faculty salaries. Then, a new athletic facility. And, I would like for each student and teacher at F.S.C. to feel that this is the best state



DEAN COSGROVE

college in Massachusetts. I think we're well on our way.

"That has a lot to do with student-teacher morale and a pride in one's college. It's one of the most important things any college can gain, ours included. I feel that this comes through all kinds of achievements. The track

team is number one in New England in Division 3. Just that kind of excellence helps the job of morale-building.

"The Study Skills Center is an enormous service to the student body. The services they offer would cost thousands of dollars elsewhere."

Dean Cosgrove explained her job as Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

"My major responsibility is to work out student problems, such as the ones they have when they want to change majors. General advising - if they need a certain type of help, I do a lot of referral. It's not just 'passing them along.' I try to reassure them that they can come back."

"Fellowships and scholarships also come out of this office."

I asked the Dean if her position involved discussion with professors who are the subjects of complaints by students.

"If a student has a problem, he should discuss it with the professor. If the complaint isn't satisfied, then the Department Chairman is the person to see." - "If that doesn't help," she explained, "see our advisor, and if it hasn't been resolved by then, the problem comes here."

See INTERVIEW Page 2

**RHETORIC**  
NEXT DEADLINE  
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IF POSSIBLE

## Attention, please

Attention, students! Do you want to know more about the issues and problems affecting public higher education? Would you like to see some action take place? If so, the Political Action Committee is interested in you!

Stop in at the SGA office and find out what the issues are. Leave your name and box number.

# Comment and Opinion

(Editor's Note: The thoughts and opinions expressed on this page are designed to stimulate thoughts and opinions from Rhetoric and do not necessarily conform to the consensus of the school, nor are they stated policy of the administration.)

## Mike the knife

Mike the Knife Dukakis, the Duke, cannot be accused of partiality, for the teachers are not alone in getting the shaft. His latest, in conformance with his policies of serving the Bay Staters while practicing Florentine maneuvers, has been to shelve the "Bottle Bill" until 1978 (at least). In passing, farmers use the term "service" with a special meaning which is not lost in this case. Thus, it is not only the teachers in the state school system, but also the consumers in the general public who can enjoy the Duke's fulfillment of his pledge to

"serve" the people. He could, at least, throw in a kiss.

His own position is understandable; consumer and environmental-conservation groups cannot finance him with the largesse of Big Business.

## Research ruse

To the Editor:

Recently the RHETORIC has run paid advertisements from firms which purport to be research-style firms interested in providing research materials to students. The editors have kindly allowed me to sound off on the subject.

As the faculty advisor to RHETORIC, I want to disclaim all responsibility for such ads which I find immoral and offensive. To speak plainly, what these firms are, of course, are clearing houses for organized plagiarism, i.e. the sale of good term papers to poor or lazy students so that they can get good marks in a course. No responsible student or institute for higher education should have anything to do with encouraging or allowing such open fraud.

Just last year I had in my own classes two cases of obvious plagiarism. After the initial and almost obligatory denial the students admitted what had happened, accepted my offer of a simple flunk rather than attempt to carry the fraud to a higher

level, and the incidents closed--not I'm sure without a bitterness on the students' parts which matched my own. I know I speak for many faculty members when I insist that plagiarism is the worst academic crime and a betrayal of the sacred trust between student and professor.

Students have, of course, the right to ignore what I mean as sensible advice. They also have the duty to inform themselves and others of what the consequences are if they get caught. You can buy knowledge--it just won't do you much good. I don't think it's our job to encourage clearing-houses for academic fraud in the RHETORIC.

William Keough

## Convocation

To the Editor:

This letter is sent to express special thanks to everyone for the success of our Convocation Day on October 19.

To the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, my thanks for your willingness to give up a day of classes so that the seniors might have some extra time to interact with the faculty in a rather informal social way. Judging from the success of the Day I think I expect it to be continued so you will have your turn in the years ahead.

To the seniors, a special word of gratitude for their willingness to participate in such large numbers and in such an active way in the various discussion groups. Your participation bodes well for an excellent senior year for your class. I hope that you will encourage other students to take advantage of getting to know the faculty better.

To the faculty and staff, special appreciation for your thoughtful and vigorous dialogue on a host of issues with which we must deal as a college community during this academic year. I believe the Day provided an extra surge of motivation toward moving forward to accomplish those things which will make us a stronger college this year -- thus, providing the best protection for our institution as the new Reorganization is developed.

It really gives one a feeling of excitement and joy in the awareness that there are such good feelings shared here at Fitchburg State College.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,  
VINCENT J. MARA  
President

## Ratings rated

To the Editor:

Since I have spent roughly 20 years of my rather young life within the confines of this "metropolis" of the Fitchburg-Leominster area, I have within my cranium a fair amount of knowledge about what is available for entertainment in these cities. After all, I'm not the type to sit at home and knit or crochet my nights away.

Indeed, this fair knowledge also extends to the local "watering holes," as Clare Perron so aptly nicknamed nearby bars in the last issue of the Rhetoric (Oct. 13, 1977). Ms. Perron may or may not be a native like myself, but that is irrelevant. It is apparent, however, that we differ in at least one respect -- she must have a surplus of money.

I consider myself typical of the

vast majority of college students by virtue of living on a terribly tight budget. Therefore, I would spend little, if any, time at the local clubs which she has labeled as "excellent," although I would spend a fair amount of time at some which she didn't even consider giving space in her article, for example, the Winnekeg and the Lake Lodge.

Furthermore, the atmosphere at those "pick-up joints" that Perron favors sickens me. If you like plastic encounters with plastic people, Perron's pets are perfect for you; however, if you would rather go someplace with friends to have a good time, I suggest shopping around a bit more, shunning the sour spots that Perron savors.

Francis Nadeau

## Why not report

To the Editor:

I must disagree with Dean Fitzgibbons' statement concerning a recent outrage. I feel that college newspapers should report boorish and bullying actions of the campus community. (Such as that of some idiot who -- without campus police interruption -- places a loud speaker in his dorm window and blasts music the length of North Street to the inconvenience of not a few students.) How else are we to learn to police ourselves.

Sincerely  
Louis P. Shepherd

## Does dean's list really make sense?

By DAN WEITZNER

The mechanics of becoming placed on the Dean's List raises a point of logic.

To use the Socratic method of answering a question with a question, is the student with a 3.5 GPA for four easy courses a more highly gifted or better qualified student than the one with six difficult courses and a 2.9 GPA?

Resolution of the problem is not easy unless the subjects are weighted as well as the overload involved by the acquisition of additional subjects. Rather than being pragmatic and using fixed goals, it would seem more sensible to weigh the eligibility on the student's own merits rather than use a yes-or-no scale.

## ★ Interview

Continued from page 1

Dean Cosgrove says that the feeling on campus is very positive.

"The mood on campus is very 'up.' I sense a good feeling. It seems that this office reflects it to some extent. There aren't as many students in here with problems. There is a better feeling since last semester."

Her opinion on the closing of McKay?

"It's disappointing, distressing to say the least. I think Mr. Condon (McKay principal) does an excellent job."

Besides her administrative duties, Dean Cosgrove is also actively involved in other areas of campus life.

"I'm the advisor to the Adelphians, and I support the women's group. I wish we could get that group going, it doesn't seem to have a 'mission' yet. If the women's co-op gets on its feet, I'd be a big supporter. I'm advisor for the Seniors, also."

Dean Cosgrove is also enthusiastic about the "outside activities" offered at F.S.C.

"This is my seventh year here, and it's improved. Reb (Raoul Rebillard, Campus Center Director) does a good job. The activities are great. I hope that the weekends pick up, so that we have a more active campus. You become more affiliated with your college."

What does she think of the efforts of the football club to get a team for F.S.C.?

She glows. "Texas in 5!" That's what one of my colleagues said when we might be having a team here."

Women's athletics?

"I couldn't support them more. I'm proud of them and feel strongly in that regard. They are actively participating instead of accepting a passive role. My favorite team is the Women's J.V. Basketball. I love their spirit. They don't get any recognition, but I love their spirit."

What's her opinion of the students?

"Perceptive. Very warm!. People come here because there is a good feeling here. It's really neat. I love the students, genuinely."

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# To cut or not to cut....

By MARY-ELLEN PARKER

It is yet October, the bustle but begun, and it's a long time 'til Christmas. But as the syllabii circulate and the grumblings germinate, it is plain that an old nemesis will again rear its sleepy head...the spectre that walks infrequently in early term, treads more heavily at mid-term, and trudges threateningly as the semester draws to a close. The ghost of classes cut walks among us...shall we exorcise or excuse it?

Monday comes, dripping drearily through morning haze. The aftermath of long hours of study and socializing hang over a weary head. "Get up, lazy bones...all super-achievers must force themselves to rise and face their destinies!" But the bed is warm and soft; the room dry in comparison to the wet world outside; homework not complete for that early class...the sleepy student makes a decision...to settle back in for a little more shuteye and some much-needed brain rest. DEMERIT!

It is a ripe autumn afternoon; winter smirks behind fallen leaves daring the sun to stave off its cold. Today is a triumph! Psych and History work is all up to date; the sky is an artist's delight, and the air is a balm to sludge-sore nostrils. "Aaah...life is short, let us take this warm afternoon." Meanwhile, squashed into a sterile cubicle, the professor takes attendance...raising his voice to be heard above the roar of an earthmover outside the hermetically sealed windows of the arts building...The alluring day is but an eye-irritant beyond the environmentally controlled room. "Miss...er... Mr...absent..." RED MARK.

The floor hasn't been washed since the 4th of July, the refrigerator is a gaping void, the shelves are 3-tiered with dust, and his parents have invited themselves to dinner tonight. Classes all day...work after that...what to do? To skip work is to lose some much-needed bread, to cut class is perchance to

miss something important...but the choice is clear. Warning...one must not allow such domestic nonsense to interfere with the education that poor Jonny in Biafra would love to have (if he knew about it) and thus one must simply state that school comes before all else and defiantly usher his parents into the junkyard and offer them bread and gruel with a self-satisfied smile.

A good chance comes up to earn an extra \$100.00...that will pay the rent and the groceries...put something down on the baby's doctor bill...let the wife go to the dentist before her teeth fall out on the floor...So...the classes must wait...typical reaction of the individual not concerned with long-range goals...education is his only answer. Of course, it is obvious that he isn't serious about school...it's an easy way out of working all day. He works all night instead and tries to hold body and soul together at home, while sitting among righteous ever-in-attendance post-highschoolers all day. Still...he

could always take a correspondence course.

Don't we all hate that crass individual who sneezes and coughs his/her way through a class, interrupting the lecture, spreading germs? Well...he or she should have thought of that before cutting that class for some unnecessary thing...now we'll just all have to suffer, that's all.

A loved one needs a helping hand...an ear...a shoulder. But all three parts are due in class. Sometimes the soul is weary...who's counting? Why, everyone. The state, the college administration, the instructor...and your own guilty conscience. Hurt ego may influence a grade...that book doesn't lie. Shall we begin to make excuses...explain our illnesses, our moods, our lives?

Surely it is apparent that there is much to be gained in regular attendance...valuable insights and information missed with that cut class. But that is the adult's responsibility...is it not? Leg participation and perception, performance in quizzes and tests, quality of papers...speak for

themselves. Or shall we be reduced to notes from mommy and raised hands for toilet privileges? Shall we have a special place on our "report cards" for attendance"? Doubtless a student who misses too many classes will lose valuable material not available in the text...subsequently that deficiency will be reflected on its own. If requirements are up to date, it seems petty to allow attendance to affect grades of its own sake.

Are we to stoop to buttering professional egos like so many hot rolls (see teacher how much I like you...I never miss your class? Too much catering to individual idiosyncracies sneaks into all aspects of our lives. Too often we hear it..."just show up...ask questions"...20 ways to get a good grade. Ugh! We must all ask ourselves if mandatory attendance-taking is not a primitive hold-over from grade-school days and if the issue is really not one of an attempt to inflict discipline when only the self should be responsible for that particular duty. It is unfortunate, I suppose, that we cannot work like clocks...unerring in our attendance at class; thus fulfilling the perfect quota desires of the administrative machines, but...alas...we are not machines...but humans, and sometimes life interferes.

## Watering holes

By CLAIRE PERRON

For those of you with a taste for Polynesian drinks, may I suggest two places, Dan Chan's and the Singapore. Both are open until 2 a.m. The Singapore has entertainment Wednesday through Sunday and there is no cover charge. Both serve Chinese food for those of you with the hungry horrors at an ungodly hour. The age span at the Singapore ranges from 20 to 25 so I'm sure you'll find someone to suit your interest.

The Oyster Bar is a rather loud place. It has a band and drinks run about \$1. At one time it had a rather bad reputation but it seems to have changed for the better.

By now you are probably saying, "Isn't there any place that is rather close by and quiet?" Sure there is. There are three places within walking distance of the college.

Slattery's Back Room is a nice place to sit by the fire and renew old acquaintances. The drinks are reasonable and the food is excellent.

The Billi Club has drinks at the right prices. Wednesday is college night with drinks at a special rate for those with ID's. Thursday is Ladies Night and all the drinks are .50 cents for girls. Tuesday night all beer is .55 cents a bottle, and Sunday night all vodka drinks are seventy cents. I'm sure some of you remember The Billi Club as The Royal Cafe. Well I can assure you that it is totally different from what you remember. It's a nice place to meet new people and let yourself go.

The Peter Pan is where the dynamic Boston Bruins quench their thirst. It has an older crowd but it is appropriate to take a date. Drinks are rather high priced.

The Shamrock and Frankie Dee's have a reputation of being rather wild with a rough crowd patronizing them.

So don't just sit in your rooms bored. There is a lot out there if you are just willing to take the time to look.

## The mail must go through them

By PAULA PITKIEWICZ

"It seems like nothing has changed," said Mrs. Rosemary Clark in reference to her duties, student questions, and activities that concern the Campus Post Office this year and all years.

The Campus Post Office is not run by the Federal Government as are local post offices. It is operated under the authority of the Fitchburg State College (FSC) Business Office. Mr. Rivard of that office is Mrs. Clark's "boss."

The Campus Post Office handles all the mail concerning F.S.C. That includes mail for McKay Campus School, full time dormitory and commuting students, the faculty, and the administration.

Mrs. Clark, who has worked in the Post Office for seven years, says that they try to distribute all the mail by 12:00. However, she says that some students, "Keep us hopping. They want their mail immediately. It's hard for them to understand that the mail has to be broken up."

The Campus Post Office receives daily about two bulging mail sacks containing first class mail, 2 or 3 for flag mail, and more for bulk mail. First class mail is letters, and flat mail refers to magazines. Large stacks of intercampus mail from fraternities, sororities, and clubs must also be distributed.

All of this mail must be sorted by Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Dorothy Allen, who is employed in the Post Office by the Manpower agency. Mrs. Clark says that each day they switch duties. One day she will sort the letters and the next day will switch to the flat mail.

Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Allen are also helped by Frank Todesco, a work study student. "Dot and I handle the incoming mail. Frank handles campus mail," such as the club notices and recently, the student election campaign notices.

After sorting, the mail is

distributed to the appropriate slot. On each slot the name of the student, year of graduation, and major is listed.

Also, in the afternoon, U.P.S. delivers packages for the students. "Package notices" are then distributed in the mail slots.

The busiest times of year are usually around Christmas and Valentines Day. Each day it is busiest at the between class breaks, and Monday is the busiest day of the week. Although Mrs. Allen works part time from 9:00 to 2:00, on Monday, she "can usually bank on working till 4:15."

Of the seven years that Mrs. Clark has worked in the Campus Post Office, this is the third year in the Student Government Building. Before, it was located in Thompson Hall.

During all that time she has become acquainted with many students. I probably get to know the foreign students better because they ask more questions and have more problems."

## Harvest festival

Monday

Gallery Opening with a Wine & Cheese Party.

Tuesday

Entertainment at the PUB

Wednesday

Film.

Thursday

Costume Party at the Cafeteria.

Friday

Hayride.

Saturday

More information later.

The Hayride for the Harvest Festival will be held Oct. 28, 1977. Tickets will be \$2. per single ticket, \$3. for couples. The selling date will be announced later. There are only 75 tickets available, so buy your tickets quickly! Buses will leave Aubuchon at 6:30 p.m. come rain or shine; who cares about the weather as long as your head is in the brew!!! So, sign up QUICKLY and B.Y.O.B.!!!



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# Age over age

By ALMA ROSE

When I was in high school and people started to ask me, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" I had to tell them something. My most specific, yet vague, answer was, "Help people." I left myself wide open on this one - only because I didn't know.

Eventually I had to get specific. So, like lots of other people my age, I decided juvenile counseling would be an excellent field to go into. Until recently...

I've come to the conclusion there is no such thing as a little kid anymore. In the past few weeks, I've noticed it more. On the way to Health and Fitness the other morning a kid asked me if I had a light for his cigarette. He was about eight. While walking down to the bank last week, I passed a playground down the street from my apartment. There were seven or eight young boys playing football and as I walked by, one of the boys screamed, "You filthy Rican! Your old lady is a ——— whore!" I was in shock! What kind of talk is that for a young kid? I had a male friend who is student teaching relate an incident that happened in his classroom the other day to me. After class, one of his more mature, fourteen-year-old female students told him she'd "love to get him in bed" with her. Can you imagine? A fourteen year old trying to make her teacher?!

The thought of this makes me ill. Very seriously, what kind of a life are these kids going to have by the time they're eighteen? It's not just the city of Fitchburg either. Kids all over the place are growing up too fast. Just look at the statistics on teenage pregnancy and crime for example. I don't think I could handle that as a "professional." It's sad and sick and unnecessary. Besides, I've gotten the impression most of those kids don't care. My heart goes out to my friends studying to be teachers and juvenile counselors.

I can't let you think that I have no direction in life. I've found a field that is wide open. I feel needed, wanted, and useful. Nobody swears at me or gives me a hard time, and I can actually see that I'm "helping people." I'm working with the elderly. They're great - with so much to give from their own experience. And I'll tell you, as depressing as some may think, I'd rather spend my afternoons talking with a 90-year-old lady who is glad to see me than a fifteen-year-old punk who doesn't give a damn.

## Channel 2 listings

Oct. 27 (Thurs.)

10:00 Images of Aging: Neither Blessing nor Curse. The elderly as they see themselves - in a mirror, darkly.

Oct. 27 (Fri.)

9:00 Masterpiece Theater: Dickens of London Nightmare. Dickens and Edgar Allan Poe become fast friends while discussing "Inflation and Amontillado."

By FRAN

I had placed myself at the most strategic table in the library. This one is near the windows on the first floor, and more or less at the back of this level. I like to go to this spot to study for a couple important reasons. In fact, if I can't sit here, I won't study at all, opting instead to head down to the pub for a few brews while I stew in my own self-pity for not being able to sit where I choose.

A couple nights ago I was lucky because nobody was sitting at my spot when I entered the library. Consequently, I placed myself there, facing the open area of the floor. This is one of the main reasons I need to sit at this particular table. It provides a great vantage point from which to view the goings-on of the study area. Last year, though, this habit gave me much more enjoyment than it does now. It seems as if people are studying more this semester. However, the quiet academic atmosphere actually is quite boring.

Yet, when I do become bored with looking at the students walking around, I can always view the window to my right. In fact, this is the second rationale for adamantly refusing to go elsewhere. At least here I can glance at at the huge glassy expanse and smile at my god-like figure reflected in the window panes. Of course, I could do this at another table, but I don't want to look conspicuous about feeding

my narcissistic addiction.

At roughly 10:30 that night I had had enough of racking my brains there. It had been a comparatively productive evening. Although I had read only a few pages of one of my textbooks, I had spent over three hours staying there analyzing everyone moving around, and even analyzing some who weren't moving around (so what else is new?).

Thus, I packed my collection of colorful reading material receptacles (most people call them books, except for an occasional wierd psychmajor), and I headed out of the library. While walking towards the exit, I saw my friend bodating with a spobod on the other side of the check-out counter. He and I agreed to head downstairs to have a couple beers on me.

After he had written a phone number and pocketed the slip of paper he went through the security passage. I would have gone through this too, but I was buzzed on the way out. I hate it when I'm buzzed here, because everyone looks at you, and they all know that you have a library book in your knapsack. I usually get embarrassed when others peer at me this way. And this time was no exception.

The librarian giggled.

In spite of my awkwardness with knapsacks, I'd rather have one than not have one. As an inexperienced freshman, I didn't

possess such a convenient container. Consequently, I had to carry my books, notepads, pens, papers and crayons exposed to the elements. This had been okay while I had still been in high school. But at that time I hadn't had to transport as many things at one time as I must now.

Indeed, I've tried many manners of moving my school supplies along with me. Holding them by my side maintained an unbearable strain on the lower forearm. Besides, nobody noticed me as I'd bring them along this way. In other words, this is a boring way to carry books. Thus I have also tried the macho manner of handling them. This is to say, I've tried holding them so that the elbow is bent and the books brush against the hollow just under the shoulder. This didn't work either; this technique hurt my biceps.

My friend and I continued down to the pub pausing first at the G-lobby so that we could smile at our images reflected in the window panes there.

As we approached the pub area, a bearded bruising bouncer was checking college iden-

tifications, a tedious process which forces people to stop before entering that dim enclave. We stood waiting to go through. Meanwhile, my friend scanned the faces within, searching for some spobods. At one of the large round tables off to the right, there were seated numerous spobods. These were the same ones to whom my friend had introduced me earlier.

I pointed out the ne who had interested me, and my friend told me her name. I would repeat it here, but I've forgotten it again. Indeed, I'm beginning to think that perhaps I should carry one of those little pocket pads so that I'd be able to write these things down. It could serve as a paper memory which would supplement my rather faulty biological brain.

My friend pulled me aside, saying that I'd have a chance with her if only I could maintain the intellectual image, because she likes brainy bodies. Therefore, he let me borrow his pipe to help me out. Meanwhile, he unfastened the top three buttons of his silk shirt, fluffing his dark, thick chest hair.

## New total theater course

Professor Eugene Casassa announced today that a new theatre course will be offered next semester. The course is a one-semester, fifteen credit hour, multi-discipline program. These hours may be applied to the humanities requirement. The course will accommodate 15 to 20 students working together as a theatre company to produce a significant drama to be chosen by the group. This central focus will generate studies of the music, art, philosophy and the cultural-political climate of the time of the play. Theatre skills will also be studied (lighting, set design, costuming, acting, dancing, etc.).

Each student after selecting an area of concentration will design his own program. Working on his project until it is completed, he then will present his work to the rest of the group.

Because of the widely varying work-load of the different projects, he might work independently on one and cooperatively on others. His method of inquiry, design and presentation will be uniquely his own but high standards of accountability will be adhered to. The program as envisioned will foster high levels of individual creativity and responsibility while at the same time promoting (because of the theatre company concept) equally high levels of cooperative "team" effort.

A special classroom area has been designated for the program (formerly the woodworking shop in the IA building.) In this center resources can be gathered, seminars conducted and conferences held. This will encourage the exchange of information and the state of works in progress. Because of the time structure of the course, students will be able to go further afield than is usually possible, including visits to other schools, libraries, theatres, and interviews with experts.

The course carries fifteen credit hours in the humanities and interested students should contact Mr. Casassa, Miller Hall or Box 1650.

## Election results

SENIOR BALLOT		FRESHMEN BALLOT	
Total Ballots Cast	84	Total Ballots Cast	207
Blanks	3	Blanks	0
REPRESENTATIVE		PRESIDENT	
● Dawn Alexander	63	● Jean Robichaud	83
		Patrick Moriarty	53
		David Proulx	36
		David Polanik	27
JUNIOR BALLOT		VICE PRESIDENT	
Total Ballots Cast	98	● Marianne Morrison	170
Blanks	10	SECRETARY	
		● Kathy Clough	167
REPRESENTATIVES		TREASURER	
● Meg Miller	30	● Elaine Baci	170
Bonnie Dyer	14	REPRESENTATIVES	
Patty Toomey	9	● Anne Marie Brighenti	114
		● Janet O'Neil	112
		● Sue Turner	96
		● Bette Cunningham	19
COMMUTER'S BOARD		COMMUTER'S BOARD	
● Paulette Windward	14	● Kathy Bilodeau	7

### REFERENDUM RESULTS

1. To amend Article IV, Section I, of the Student Government Association Constitution; "In addition to Class Presidents, Vice-presidents shall have a vote, along with Dormitory Presidents, and Vice-presidents, the Commuter's Board President and Vice-president and one Representative from each class on the Commuter's Board.

Yes 528  
No 76

2. To increase the Student Activity Fee, \$2.50 per semester, for additional student services.

Yes 297  
No 319

3. That Article V, Section V, of the Student Government Association Constitution be amended to include: In the event of a sudden vacancy of the Editors of the student newspaper, student yearbook, and student literary magazine, the President of the Student Government Association will have the power of temporary appointment, with Council's approval, until the Selection Committee submits a recommendation for Council's approval.

Yes 495  
No 109

4. To increase the Student Athletic Fee, \$1.50 per semester, for the purpose of Club Football.

Yes 521  
No 119

### FORD CHEVY AMC DATSUN TOYOTA TRIUMPH

Winter spells trouble for you and your car. Treat your car to a tune-up and treat yourself to the satisfaction that you did it yourself with Chilton's Manuals and Globemaster Tools.

## The College Bookstore

is offering fantastic savings on the popular Chilton's Manuals and Globemaster Tools that just can't be beat! Stop in and see for yourself.

FORD CHEVY AMC DATSUN TOYOTA TRIUMPH  
MG MAZDA PLYMOUTH SIMCA BMW PONTIAC  
PLYMOUTH SIMCA JAGUAR VOLKSWAGEN AUDI

# Scientists are opposed to use of water

New fire fighting agent meets opposition: "could kill men as well as fires."

After reading about the ban on saccharine based on carcinogenic sequences following massive doses of diet drinks to mice (subcutaneously yet) we have to learn to live with our environment so we may as well be resigned. With apologies to FDA and OSHA, we have to assume that water in pure form has been unknown — there are no seas, rivers, nor lakes — and has just been discovered by industry and released to the public.

Fitchburg Chemical has announced the discovery of a new

chemical to add to their existing line. Known as WATER (acronym for Wonderful and Total Extinguishing Resources), it augments, rather than replaces, existing agents such as dry powder and CO-2 under pressure, which have long been accepted. WATER is particularly suitable for dealing with fires in buildings, lumber yards, warehouses and faculty waste baskets, not to mention cafeteria trash receptacles. Though required in large quantities, it is cheap to produce and it is intended that quantities of upwards of a million gallons could be stored in urban areas and near other high risk in-

stallations, such as Leighton Street, for immediate use. CO-2 and dry powder are usually stored under pressure, but WATER can be stored in open ponds, reservoirs, lagoons, and even tanks to be transported to the scenes of fires by tank trucks, hoses and portable pumps.

The use of WATER is already encountering strong opposition from safety and environmental groups. The Life-Science Dept. of F.S.C. has pointed out that if anyone immersed their head in a bucket of WATER, it would result in a highly fatal death in as little as three minutes. The Department of Chemistry at FSC has demonstrated the rust inducing

qualities of WATER. If it does that to a nail, what will it do to your stomach?

Suggested reservoirs will be able to hold as many as a MILLION two-gallon buckets of WATER. Each bucket could be used over and over so there is enough WATER in ONE reservoir to kill the entire population of the United States, as well as Cleghorn. Risks of this size, according to Dr. Davis, should not be allowed, what ever the gain. If water were to get out of control, the catastrophes of kepone and thalidomide would pale by comparison. What is the use of a fire-fighting agent which could be so deadly?

The Fitchburg City Council, with Peter Nero as spokesman person, said that he would strongly oppose planning permission for construction of a WATER reservoir in this area unless absolute safety was guaranteed and the most stringent precautions observed. It is noted that existing reservoirs have fences around them to keep out would-be unlicensed users or unqualified handlers. The State Board of Water Handler Registration is considering raising new revenues by making registration fees prohibitive to amateurs; this will keep water out of the hands (and faces) of the Great Unwashed. Open ponds are certainly not acceptable. What would prevent people from falling in them? Furthermore, frozen water is converted to ice, which could be used to make daggers in an already heavily armed population. At the very least, the WATER would need to be contained in an armored steel vessel surrounded by a thick wall of concrete, reinforced with vinyl to make it leaf-proof.

The Fitchburg Chief of Fire Department said that he did not see the need for the new agent. Dry powder and CO-2 could cope with most fires; he also pointed out the corroded equipment which had accidentally been exposed to WATER. The new agent would bring with it risks, particularly to firemen, greater than any possible gain. Do we know that this new medium will be lost when exposed to intense heat? Furthermore, it is composed of oxygen and hydrogen, a highly explosive combination which caused the Hindenburg disaster. Analysts state that WATER is a constituent of beer. Does this mean that the Fire Department will be suffocated when they try to use it?

The swimming pool at the Fitchburg YMCA contains enough WATER to be fatal to the entire population of Fitchburg, including the students, faculty and administration. According to the computer center, the well-beloved traffic squad of the Fitchburg Police would be spared; this is an optimistic note for the future of parking tickets — they could be placed on abandoned cars. They are allergic to WATER! No one ever gets ticketed during inclement weather!

## FSC Special Ed Club

By PEGGY SHAGRUE

During the spring semester of 1977, the 1977-78 Special Education Club was underway. Elections of new officers were held. Elected were -

Jim Carberry, President.  
Paul Larter - Vice President.  
Dawn Alexander - Secretary  
Peggy Shagru - Senior Rep.  
Maureen Cloutier - Junior Rep.  
Robin Porter - Sophomore Rep.  
For the first monthly meeting of the Spec. Club, many familiar, (and not so familiar) faces were present. Applications for freshmen representative were distributed. From the many who applied for the position, Walter Hillieson was chosen. (Congratulations, Walter!)

As usual, the special committees and chairmen are hard at work making their functions a big success. The chairmen for this

year are:

Special Girl Scouts - Maryanne Hughes, Sue Hewitt and Bari Edwards.

C.P. Telethon - Al Powers  
Adult Education: Bob Mc-Millan, Kathy White

Jail Day - Bill Twomey  
Big Brother-Sister - Lynne O'Toole and Nancy Slater  
Templeton Dances - Billy Andrews

Grottenwood Coordinator - Judy Murphy.

The next meeting will be held on October 17, at 7:30 in the Newman Center. At this time the member of the month will be announced. Guest speakers, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Kramer will be present to discuss their roles as parents of two autistic children. A film on autism will be shown. Any and all interested students and faculty members are invited to attend.

## Wanted for Special Ed Club

Three sophomores to help coordinate an upperclass personal advisor program for freshman.

Five students to be in charge of the Special Ed Club Newsletter  
Five students to formulate and

direct a Public Relations Committee.

Five students to set up a Fund Raising committee.

Dawn Alexander  
Secretary  
Special Ed Club

## Health regulations

The commuter's cafeteria could lose its food-service permit unless State Health Department regulations are observed by F.S.C. students and personnel. A Health Department Inspector stressed that bare feet are prohibited and that no dogs may be permitted in ANY food service areas.

It is emphasized that this is a State and not a local decision. Individuals not in compliance face a \$25 fine if convicted. The dog faces possible destruction.

## Blood pressure screening

Do you have high blood pressure?

Do you care?

If your answer to the first question is "I don't know," maybe you'll consider your answer to the second.

A high blood pressure reading can result if you've just smoked a cigarette, or recently eaten dinner, or are exhausted after a jog to McKay for a class. This sporadic, high reading usually has no long-term significance, because its cause was the sudden physical activity just mentioned. The blood pressure returns to normal after you rest for a few moments.

Hypertension, the physical condition which is usually called high blood pressure, is more serious, and is caused by more serious things than a jog to McKay. You may have a medical problem if you have consistently high blood pressure readings. The causes can include poor circulation, obesity, and heart disease, among many other conditions.

Hypertension can be treated, and can also be an indication that you could have other medical problems worth checking out further.

Why not come to the Blood Pressure Screening, Wednesday, Nov. 9, from noon to 3 p.m. It will be in G-Lobby, Campus Center, and there will be no charge. The Health Center Staff will be in attendance.

Do yourself a favor and care about your blood pressure.

## Shambroom art exhibition

An exhibition featuring the paintings and drawings of Boston artist Donald Shambroom will open at the Campus Center Gallery at Fitchburg State College on Tuesday, Oct. 25.

The exhibition is free of charge and will be open to the general public from 2 to 6 p.m. daily

through November 20.

Although his work is often labeled "surrealistic", incongruity is only a small part of Shambroom's paintings. Most of his work shows that it is possible for images from many different sources and times to come together in the imagination in a harmonious way.

## Newman sex talk is well-attended

On Tuesday October 4, Dr. Sharon Shepala, professor at both UMass-Boston and Framingham State College, presented the second of her four lectures on human sexuality, entitled "Sexuality, Sensuality, Friendship, and Love," at the Newman Center. Over fifty people attended the lecture, which lasted from 7 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

During the lecture, she asked questions of the couples in the audience, of which there were

several. She read selected quotations from the book "Some Men are More Perfect Than Others," by Merle Shain; and recommended reading on sensuality, sexuality, massage, and intimacy. She touched upon the advent of "sex manuals," which, in her opinion, had their merit as far as technique goes, but they are generally "pretty bad" in the context of sensuality and other-than-coital intimacy. The best "sex manual", according to Dr. Shepala, is "The Joy of Sex," edited by Alex Comfort.

After the initial lecture, Dr. Shepala opened the floor to questions. The audience, diverse in age and background, from students to older people in the community (one woman introduced herself as a welfare talkative, and some of them expressed a strong desire to continue attending the lecture series and to talk with Dr. Shepala further.

## Meet Mrs. Page, crossing guard

If you've ever driven to school, you've probably become more or less acquainted with the crossing guard on Pearl and North streets. She's the one who stands in the rain and waves you by. To get to know her better and appreciate her job more, anyone interested should slosh out into the street and talk to her. Since most people wouldn't want to risk getting pneumonia in this weather, I interviewed her for you.

What I found was that Mrs. Page, the crossing guard, is a remarkable woman. She has been doing the same job for 15 years, and has been working at this intersection for the past two years. It's a part-time job, 3 hours per day, but she is dedicated, and enjoys her work. It's her responsibility to direct children across the intersection. This is not as easy as it sounds, considering some of the drivers around here. (We love ya Woodii.)

Mrs. Page does admit to some drawbacks, though. Surprisingly enough, she doesn't mind bad weather, and she likes working outdoors. The drawback that does bother her is: obnoxious drivers. But, for 15 years, the good has outweighed the bad, and she plans to continue her work, despite rain... sleet ... snow...

By Jim LaMondia



## 'Super Parrot'

Can find you an agency practicum in one interview!

Has over 800 openings available!  
Works with 51 non-profit organizations!

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Super-parrot is Campus V.A.C.'s Mascot! Come see him for a volunteer experience in Room BC 17 of the Campus Center - Monday through Thursday from 10 A.M. 'til 2 P.M. and on Fridays from 10 A.M. 'til 12 P.M.

Remember "Happiness is... Giving a little of yourself, and getting a lot in return"!

# ARTS



## National Shakespeare Company

# This Othello was less than dynamic

Robert Frost once said that the title Poet is one of great praise and, therefore, should not be applied to the self despite merit.

A similar honor in the theater is to belong to a company that incorporates the name Shakespeare in its title. The abuses, however, may be similar. On Monday, Oct. 17, we were

greatly disappointed by the National Shakespeare Company's amateurish performance of "Othello."

The performance's faults were blatant and excessive. Weak interpretation of the play led to disastrous innovations; emotional intensity demanded by this tightly developed plot was

lacking; even the lines were abusively declaimed. In all fairness, we must note that the final scene of the play did possess some redeeming factors. Regardless, we must presume, that unless the direction was extremely distorted and demanding, no one individual was responsible. It was a general disaster.

The company's innovations were not only distracting but ruined the play's thrust. Ideas were irreverently manipulated. For example, the first act was most confusing. Characters came on stage when they were not supposed to be there and remained when they should have left. The change from one character to another was accompanied by a thunderous clap of the hands, and the speaking of certain lines was greeted by shrill and abrupt laughter. Of course, I could be mistaken. The laughter might have come from someone in the audience who was amused by the antics of this tragic version of the play.

I was most distressed by the artificial presence of a long, black strap wound about the arm of Othello. People kept wrapping this thing around their eyes. I suppose that this was probably intended as some mechanical symbol for mental blindness. The strap was also used by Othello to bind Desdemona's hand when she was professing her love for her husband to her father, Brabantio. This binding distracted from Shakespeare's purpose. Desdemona is not coerced. I did my best to ignore the warrior's strap, but the damn thing was all over the place.

The emotional impact of Othello is most crucial to the play. The action is tight. With the exception of a single scene at least one of the three major actors is always present on stage. The tension should be continually increasing. However, there was a general lack of concentration needed to develop the necessary tension. Othello, performed by Jonathan Lutz, stormed about, but the formidable power that the part demands was absent. Iago, played by Mark Weishaus, was not vile enough. Tweedles Dee and Dum would have presented far more imposing figures.

On a high note, Kirk Wolfinger, who played Roderigo, was fair as the gullied gentlemen. In the first scene of the play, I was satisfied by the timidity that he expressed when shouting to Brabantio the news of Desdemona's marriage. His gasping "O damned Iago!" as he lay dying was also a bright spot. However, the weight of this awful death was somehow lightened when Wolfinger leaped up and off the stage. Gee, they could have at least dragged him off or closed the curtain.

Except for Desdemona (Nancy Hamill) the actors were unable to interpret correctly the verse of



Shakespeare. They stumbled over their lines, confusing the audience by slurring words and pausing in the most unnatural places. The singing of the song for the defeat of the Turks by Othello's guard was inarticulate. Iago could hardly be understood except during asides and soliloquies where he would carefully and mechanically step over his words. A word, a word, a word, and the idea was lost.

Late in the play, hunched over her bed after being accused of being a slut by Othello, Desdemona moaned out a muffled speech. Here - and previously I suppose - I noticed an acoustic problem, and not a mild one either. For this we cannot stamp all the blame on the actors for their lack of clear and resonant speech.

A better defense than poor acoustics can be given for the actors, however. The final act, however weak, was a great improvement over the others and partially redeemed the first four. The general acting improved.

Lutz acted far better as a fallen giant than as an overpowering warrior, and Desdemona died with the appropriate terror, but it was Iago who deserves the most credit and for only a single line. After Othello stabs him in the leg, Iago returned with a far more piercing jab sneering, "I bleed, sir, but not killed." For this the audience awarded him with light-hearted, well-intentioned boos when he took his bows.

We should point out that we appreciate The Programs Committee and Raoul Rebillard's bringing a national touring company to the campus. We don't blame them - we want more Shakespeare, good Shakespeare. The fault, dear readers, lies not in the stars above but in the particular pedestrian performance of the National Shakespeare Company. We expected better.

The play concluded shortly before midnight. The ride home was ever-so lonely and dull. Ahh, how I longed for the crowded and lively returns home on double-decker 9.

## Coffee, tea or honey?

Have you been enjoying the coffeehouses?

I wish I could have told you about Gene Howard before he came to play Oct. 23. If his deep, mesmerizing voice and his self-taught guitar playing intrigued you, see him again. If you didn't see him at the coffeehouse, come and hear him out. He's at the Tiki Hut at Searstown Monday through Thursday. It's a comfortable atmosphere, (there's no cover charge!), and I may even be your waitress since it's one of my life-survival jobs. And Howie loves company.

On Sunday Oct. 30, Peter Sosna, an excellent magician, will put on a teaser at the college resident cafeteria. He'll then do a self-perpetuated disappearing act, and return to the coffeehouse at 8 p.m. Peter will be there for about an hour and a half, if he doesn't make you disappear! At about 9:30 there will be a movie called Z.P.G. It's set in the future, when people are wearing gas masks and the population is at zero. Two people decide to go against the rules and have their own child, knowing the consequences. Please feel free to come in your own strange personality and wardrobe!

## Play Dennis, play Jeff; play at our coffeehouse

By KIRSTIN CARLSON

One Sunday a young man clad in jeans, hiking boots and gold-rimmed glasses approached me at my table. He was a bundle of nerves, asking me about singing at one of the coffeehouses. Something in his eyes was sincere and he groped to control his excitement about playing. I suggested he visit my home so I could hear him.

At my home Dennis and I laughed and joked as he explained that he went to Assumption and to Berkley Colleges and rapped out of both. He was considering dropping his interest in music, too because he wasn't motivated nor was anyone responsive.

He moved to Fitchburg four months ago, but said he wasn't from anywhere! Then he asked me if he could put his bubble gum in the ashtray if it wouldn't be disgusting! I laughed, and he told me about his shepherd dog, Nosal, and other places he has performed.

Dennis Ebacher plays acoustic guitar and many unusual songs. He plays songs by Steve Goodman, Danny O'Keefe, Neil Young, and Ennis Ebacher, among others. He is sort of mellow, but he can get cookin' once in a while. I hope he won't give in, or up, with his music. He'll be here Sunday, Nov. 6, bubble gum and all!

On another day I was referred

to Jeff Lyons by a friend of his here at Fitchburg State. She said he'd be glad to play, so I wrote to him. The best way to introduce you to Jeff would be to quote parts of his letter to me.

"Hello! I'm fine, thank you. And you?"

"I'm afraid you're seeing double. There is only one of me. Why just the other day a man came up to me on the streets and said, 'Hey, aren't you two people?' And I only weigh 128. Amazing!"

"At present I am singing with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus which performs regularly with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. It's a wonderful experience but it doesn't pay anything. I'm sorry about the high price of my services, but it sees me through the times when I'm singing for free. Sob, sob!!!"

"I'm afraid I don't have a picture to send you. If you're wondering what I look like, they tell me I look a lot like my brother."

"The music I play is contemporary folk with a bunch of British traditional songs sprinkled on top (unless you have chopped walnuts). If you need any more info about me, just go ahead and make it up. I'm sure your imagination is more interesting than my past. Here's hoping you continue to have a wonderful time."

Imagine that!! So, Jeff will be playing Nov. 13.

## Coming soon

Monday - Gallery Opening with a Wine & Cheese Party

Tuesday - Entertainment at the Pub

Wednesday - Film

Thursday - Costume Party at the Cafeteria

Friday - Hayride

Saturday - More information later

The Hayride for the Harvest Festival will be October 28, 1977. Tickets will be \$2 per single ticket, \$3 for couples. The selling date will be announced later. There are only 75 tickets available, so buy your tickets quickly! Buses will leave Aubachon at 6:30 p.m. Come rain or shine, who cares about the weather as long as your head is in the brew!!! So, sign up quickly and BYOB!!!

Our secretary is healthy as a horse, although she constantly suffers from bad spells.

### REGISTRATION FOR SECOND SEMESTER STUDENT TEACHING WILL BE HELD AS FOLLOWS:

October 24, 25, 26

Early Childhood  
Elementary  
Secondary

October 27 & 28

Industrial Arts

Place: Edgerly 305-Dr. Lee's Office

8:30 - 4:30 P.M.



## Something for everyone

By MS. MAC

Changes, "the world's most versatile band", originates from our twin city Leominster and is becoming one of the most popular and fastest growing groups on the East Coast and Canada. Most of you who have seen or heard Changes probably have done so at the Cinema Lounge, Leom., but they have also performed at Lucifers, K's Two, the Red Barn, and the White Hall in Maine with record breaking audiences. As with the

majority of world-known musicians, Changes is finding popularity in another country, Canada. They have been welcomed in the cop clubs such as Zepatas in Nova Scotia and the Moustache Club in Montreal where they rank as the No.1 show band.

Their talents do not end with club performances. They have released one album entitled "Changes" and their second, recorded live, will be released shortly consisting of all originals.

## Here's new life for tired bodies

By EVA FERREBEE

Five thousand year-old yoga is the "grandfather" of all systems of self-improvement. It has been used for centuries by people throughout the world to gain new life for their body and minds. Yoga aims not only to keep the body healthy and supple, but also to prolong youthfulness, delay aging and decay and make the body resistant to disease.

Twenty minutes of yoga are worth an hour of exercise, and one movement of yoga is better than 10 movements in the usual sitting-up exercises. The slow motion movement and the frequent "holds" of yoga exercises is the principal behind these statements. It is this "slow motion and holding" which enables the muscles, tendons and ligaments to truly stretch,

strengthen and the joints to become flexible.

This type of movement frequently tends to stimulate and aid in the proper functioning of the internal organs and glands. Yoga practice permits plenty of time to move slowly, gaining control over your body, since it is seldom necessary to perform any exercise more than three to five times. With yoga you are stretching and strengthening many areas of your body that have not probably been exercised in years.

Stand on any street corner and become aware of the shapes and forms of people who pass. You will be aghast at the percentage of withered, shrunken, stooped, pain-racked, flabby, overweight, tense, exhausted and depressed people you see. Yoga is an easily

## 'Loneliness Factor' at Planetarium

By MS. MAC

The Alice G. Wallace Planetarium opened their 1977-78 season with "The Loneliness Factor," a nationally syndicated planetarium star show.

The lights dim and I find myself sitting in total darkness. The room fills with sounds of a rocket blasting off and the floor seems to vibrate, adding to the illusion. We are aboard an early Viking mission to Mars in search of other life.

The story is educational and amusing. There is an explanation on how time and space began and how life is believed to have evolved on Earth. Speculations are raised about what life on other planets would be like. Caricatures of these aliens add form as well as humor to these speculations.

We are now following a special probe to Jupiter: The purpose of the probe is actually to deliver a message. The message is in the form of a plaque on the side of the probe, developed by scientists to tell who we are, what we are and where we are. Who will receive the message and when is not known, but it signifies the belief and search for intelligent beings elsewhere in the universe.

"The Loneliness Factor" was produced by the Hansen

### VIGNETTE

During the summer, the writer was employed by the New England Regional Laboratory of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The analytical section of the laboratory is ultra-clean--no smoking, eating, perfumes, or any other volatile substances were permitted. All air in the working area is filtered, all water completely de-ironized. The problem: Recurring invasions of ants in an area where pesticides are totally forbidden! The solution: Unresolved.

learned and practiced way of correcting these problems. Yoga can be practiced by people of all ages, and performed correctly, can not cause any physical harm as some calisthenics do.

Yoga can help you achieve the body you want and also aids in concentration, relaxation, and will enable you to become aware of every part of your body and its movement. The physical side of yoga, known as hatha-yoga, has been developed into some 84 basic poses, with even more variations, that concern certain parts of the body. Once you have mastered a couple of these poses, with control, you will find that relaxation walks hand-in-hand.

There are many books you can find on bookstands or at the library that can explain the procedures including pictures of the various poses. It is a form of exercise I recommend highly. If it is undertaken, it should be practiced slowly. I cannot stress this enough. There are also courses in yoga offered at the various YMCA's and even at the colleges in the area. They are relatively inexpensive, especially at colleges, but it is possible to practice at home with one of the books offered, though I find it more beneficial and a lot more fun practiced with a group. Either way you choose, Yoga is one of the best, if not the best, and most beneficial forms of exercise offered today.

Planetarium, Salt Lake City, Utah, and was made possible by a grant from the American Chemical Society. The show is a combination of film slides, animation, and audio effects which all made for a realistic and exciting production. I found the visual and special effects surpassed all of the above. These were brought about by Marla Bowman, Director of the A.G. Planetarium, and were managed with the expertise that comes with the experience and colorful background to which Marla has attained. With the use of lasers and complicated lighting effects, Marla enhances the already remarkable show.

"The Loneliness Factor" will be held every Friday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. until October 30th. For everyone interested in an enjoyable and intriguing afternoon or evening with the added benefit of mental stimulation, I would highly recommend a trip to the Planetarium.

Note: The Alice G. Wallace Planetarium will be holding a Musical Menagerie throughout the fall including "Otherwise," "Monadnock Classical Guitar Trio" and "Taxpayers Brass Quintet." There will also be a very special program "The Star of Wonder" during the Christmas Season.

## Torchy Linda has a pair of winners

By LINDA RONSTADT

Torchy Linda has another winner in "Simple Dreams", her latest album on the Elektra Asylum label which some are touting as her "best to date".

It is indeed some fine music...cohesive country, smooth as peaches' cream with a solid rock & roll backup. My own pick for cream of the Ronstadt crop, however, is the album Linda cut just before "Simple Dreams", called "Hasten Down the Wind" and boasting of a couple of original Ronstadt tunes, a rare treat. Linda likes cool country, torchy blues, rocking pop tunes...and she does them all so well...In this album she renders the title tune, "Hasten Down the Wind" with all the throaty gutsiness of a Peggy Lee...complimented by the ingenuousness innocence and clarity that is pure Ronstadt...It is a hauntingly beautiful song. "Lo Siento Mi Vida" is Linda's contribution...written herself and sung in Spanish. Its different and lovely...a voice-over harmony of Linda and Linda...Andrew Gold throws his talents into the writing of "Try me Again", a brazen love-song that gives full flow to Linda's strength as a vocalist. "Crazy", an old tune done in the 50's by the late Patsy Cline is given a new twist, but its no less a heart-string-plucker when Linda does it, and it provides a nice contrast to the traditional folk-rock and pop content of the album.

The new album moves in logical progression from the first cut. "It's so Easy" is a bumping rock tune with country pickin' and the winsome whine of the whipporwill is just audible in the composition. The pace picks up with "Poor Poor Pitiful Me" and some nice contrast is offered by Linda's rendition of an old Orbison song, "Blue Bayou"...very nicely done in a new vein for Linda...not identifiable yet, but strangely seductive. A couple of traditional melodies, "I never will marry" and "Old Paint" are warm and winning as well. But no one song on the album seems to take it away. Even the title cut "Simple Dreams" seems to belong to an artful arrangement and lends nicely to a well-coordinated whole.

From the strutting, belt-em-out variety, thru the skillful harmonies, to the mellow ballads, Linda Ronstadt's sound is finely perfected, statically unique. These two latest albums leave little to be desired for listening pleasure, and thus the only unrequited wish a Ronstadt fan might utter would be for more original songs...we've had only a small sample thus far, but they promise good things to come.

-MEP-

### Movies at Campus Center Lecture Hall

#### The Candidate

Star: Robert Redford  
Date: Wed. Nov. 2  
Time: 3:30 and 7:30

#### Kotch

#### The Glass Menagerie

Starring: Katherine Hepburn, Tennessee Williams

Date: Sat. Nov. 5  
Time: 3:30 and 7:30

Starring: Walter Matthau

Date: Wed. Nov. 9  
Time: 3:30 and 7:30

### The Great

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## Bars retaliate

By MS. MAC

With the majority of students at this campus on a somewhat "restricted" budget, I feel obliged to disagree with and add to the Watering Holes rating. The Cinema Lounge and Tiki Hut room is just great if you enjoy the plastic atmosphere and "Disco" (not rock) music. Also if you have at least ten dollars to blow on cover and one or two drinks. The Buttercup is another example except that the management is having a lot of trouble deciding on what kind of club it should be so with the exception of the D.J. Sullivan show you're never sure of what to expect. If you're willing to spend a fortune on gas, cover charge and outrageous prices for drinks might I suggest the Mohawk Club.

If you're looking for a relaxed

atmosphere, somewhere to meet with friends over a tall frosty, play some pool or pinball, or just converse you could try the Hillside, Winnekeg or the Lake Lodge. As for the Oyster Bar (the place that had a bad reputation) it's close, informal, and the prices aren't too bad. Besides, can you name me one place that hasn't at one time or another had or has a bad reputation?

I want it known I do not claim to be an authority. Every person has different likes and dislikes and you'll choose the club or bar that best suits you. There are quite a few in this area. Talk to your friends and find the one that's within your budget and offers the music (or lack of it) and atmosphere you desire, or check out some of the previously mentioned.

## Fear and loathing on Boylston Street with Zap

By MS. MAC

My dreams were fulfilled when the internationally famous ZAP subtly invited me to join in for an evening in Boston to mingle with the elite of journalism. After arriving in the chauffeured limousine (yes, ZAP has a mother) at promptly five-thirty, we shared cocktails and conversation on the journey to the big city. ZAP was enthused that Art Buchwald, a close friend and U.S.C. roommate on the G.I. bill (they had worked on a cure for polio together), was supposed to be visiting Boston that very night. I had hoped for Terry Southern or maybe Hunter Thompson but "THE" Art Buchwald! I thought I would faint. "I can't wait to see Art's face. He has no idea I'm in town." ZAP commented.

It seemed like minutes but there we were at Hines Auditorium. With the utmost dignity ZAP tossed the chauffeur a quarter and a wink. Photographers and the press swarmed the limo trying to get a moment of ZAP's time. Fortunately The Duke had arranged for a police barricade and we were escorted to the door. Through all the confusion I thought I saw a desperate man screaming "ZAP! It's me! It's me!" Quickly ZAP pushed aside three or four policemen and pulled the now near-hysterical man inside the safety of the barricade. Once inside the Hines and away from the mobs, ZAP and the still-unknown man embraced and welcomed each other. "For cryin' out loud Arthur; you

wrinkling my tee-shirt. Oh, by the way MAC, this is my old comrade Art, Art Buchwald. Art this is MAC, my latest protege. I'm going to do for her what I did for Bernstein and Woodward." I felt my knees becoming weak but there was no time. Art insisted that we join him for a drink before the speeches began. Inside the posh lounge we were seated at ZAP's regular table, next to the kitchen. I noticed the deep velvet chairs and the frosted crystal mugs of Paul Girl Beer that are so distinctive of ZAP. The orchestra had been flown in from South America, lobsters from Estoril, maharajas from India, Greek shipowners from Panama and Columbian from Columbia: at ZAP's request. ZAP and Art were rambling on about old times so I continued to observe the vast amount of celebrities present. There were writers and Journalists from all over the world. They were scattered about the room sipping champagne, discussing new literary ideas. They were all magnificently dressed and I felt terribly underdressed in my diamond-studded evening gown designed especially for me by Halston. I was drawn out of my thoughts by what seemed like an argument between Art and ZAP. "But ZAP" You know you're a much better speaker than myself."

"Listen Art. I told you I'm not going to give a speech tonight. You'll do fine. Besides you really are witty."

Suddenly a man in a tuxedo (black velvet of course) with a

name tag that said 'Hi! My name is Joe!' appeared at our table and announced that Mr. Buchwald was on in five minutes. Then Joe's usually ruddy complexion turned stark white as he realized that ZAP was sitting there. As Joe fumbled over his words ZAP asked me if I had any lipstick. I quickly passed over my favorite case of 'purple passion' and ZAP wrote up a quick autograph on a napkin and left Joe with the same dumbfounded expression I saw on the chauffeur's face when ZAP threw the quarter.

Once seated in ZAP's regularly reserved box seats, we listened to Art mesmerize the audience with his charm, wit, and monotone. "A lot of people think I dislike Jimmy Carter, but that is not so. I really do like Carter. As a matter of fact, I worship the quicksand he walks on." The audience never stopped laughing and there was a round of applause every five minutes. In closing Art expressed his appreciation to ZAP for being his inspiration. As ZAP stood up in response there was a standing

ovation and the police had to be brought in again to keep the rapidly forming crowds back and ZAP from falling over.

Backstage, Art asked us if we'd like to join him in the lobby where he was autographing copies of his new book "Down the Seine and Up the Potomac with Art Buchwald." I agreed immediately but ZAP said only if it could have an autographed copy too. Flabbergasted, Art remarked, "It would be an honor!"

"Don't mention it." ZAP replied. At the booth Art picked up a special edition and a pen and asked ZAP if it had any preference. "Let's see some of that wit art." Art scribbled 'Stay out of my business!' down and handed the book to ZAP. After reading the comment ZAP let back a laugh and said, "That's my boy Art! Keep it up!" We were hoping to stay but crowds started forming so we quickly arranged to meet Art at ZAP's favorite French Cafe for an evening of cafe sitting, a carafe

of wine, and crepes later as the police shuffled us out of the building.

After we had lost the mobs we entered the cafe and were greeted by ZAP's regular reserved Japanese waiter. Taking my albino chinchilla coat and ZAP's pet mink (a cute feller) we were escorted to ZAP's regular private table. ZAP informed Pierre (the waiter) that we were expecting Mr. Buchwald and to bring us the best wine in the house. ZAP was discussing the fine art of cafe sitting when I heard ((MAC! I can't believe it! MAC!)) We both turned to see my close friend and student, Darrell Martini, walking toward us. Darrell briskly picked me up from my chair and we embraced. With a slight amount of embarrassment I introduced Darrell and ZAP. ZAP was perfect, with a loud belch it invited Darrell to sit with us. As soon as we were seated Pierre escorted Art over to the table and we ordered. ZAP having the usual, No. 79 with ketchup.

## Hello, hello again

By KIRSTIN CARLSON

May I remind you what my name is again? It's Kirstin (Carlson). Though people have many variations of tongue. And, may I put my hand out to you - again in search of someone to help me run all the paraphernalia of the coffeehouses smoothly?

I appreciate everyone's existence at the coffeehouses. I only hope that everyone enjoys them as I do. It's nice that even if you have homework, you can do it there because it's not a taxing on the brain atmosphere, and people's enthusiasm does much for the performers' fun, too. If you have any idea what it's like to be an artist or a musician in a world of industry. It's perhaps like a battle between nature and technology, the heart and the head, the paintbrush and the

computer, the fingers and the record player.

Anyway, I'm open to any and all comments, spoken or written. You can find me at the coffeehouses, in my mailbox, on the phone, or often in the commuter's caf or SGA office. And before I forget, anyone who wants to play before a performance can, from 7-7:45. It might be wise, if you are able, to tell me ahead of time. My numbers are Box 1619 and 343-6750. I'm booked up through December, but, since paper work takes a long time, get in touch with me whenever you can.

Be seeing ya.

Oh! P.S. I cannot find the words, only the excited energy, to thank everyone who came October 16 to see the Darlin's. It was a beautiful reunion for many people! And they had fun, too!



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# Poetry Corner - - Poetry Corner

★ **McKAY**

Continued from page 1  
representatives of the college during the discussions beginning in July 1976 and subsequent to April 8, 1977 that pupil population at McKay Campus School would be drastically curtailed because of declining enrollments throughout the city.

## Options Discussed

On May 26, Supt. Wallace, Pres. Mara and his staff met at F.S.C. to discuss the issues raised by Dr. Wallace.

At that time Dean Francis J. Pilecki presented a number of options to accomplish the Superintendent's goal; one being to leave McKay alone; another to fill the 1,000 enrollment figure by bringing in students from the other Junior High Schools in the city; the third including the possibility of closing the Junior High at McKay. These options were explored in depth on May 30 and June 2, 1977 by Dean Pilecki and Dr. Wallace.

On June 21, 1977 President Mara received a letter from Dr. Wallace notifying the trustees of the college of the Fitchburg School Committee's action taken in executive session on June 6," . . . of the intention of the Fitchburg School Department to absorb all seventh, eighth and ninth grade students from McKay Junior High School, effective September 1, 1978" This action taken in executive session was unofficial, however, because it was in violation of the open-hearing code.

On June 24, 1977 President Mara outlined his objections to the closing of McKay Junior High.

On August 9, 1977 President Mara cited the legal procedures necessary to terminate the current agreement between the city and Board of Trustees.

On September 19, 1977 an open-hearing was held by the Fitchburg School Committee and the decision, already made, became official. However, it may not be final. According to President Mara, the possibility of reversing the decision remains until about December.

On Tuesday October 4, 1977, an open meeting called by McKay parents with the school committee was held. Only two members of the School Committee were present, Mary Whitney and Judith Paiewonsky. Of the 200 people in attendance many concerned parents, faculty and citizens questioned and addressed the issue. Parents made it clear that they want McKay Jr. High School to remain open.

**A FINE DAY**  
A Fine Day in February (with the windows opened)  
Cars are grinding and sloshing down there on the street.  
Zappa is telling me a funny story.  
In my mouth there's a groaning ache and a gangia and coffee (with too much sugar) aftertaste.  
It's a little past noon time and I'm peaceful and golden and still amazed by Frank Zappa.  
Lisa M. Campana

**LIVING**  
Streets so hot you could burn your feet.  
Alleys reek of booze.  
An occasional drunk staggers to and fro clinging to his bottle of life.  
Kids dressed in second hand clothes walk the streets searching for their next meal.  
Old folks sitting on the steps talking.  
Each one of them talking, but not one of them listening.  
Soot from the factories grinds in their lungs, and thoughts of surviving grind in their brains.  
Another day like all the rest.  
Rest... --Joyce Markunas

**SWORD DANCING**  
Too late, got lost people walk tight-ropes of frustration carrying fresh, factory-made carnations; and speak eloquently of the delicious fragrance.

Small doses of packaged insanity guards them from gusts of age old reality when these double-knitted plastic rainbow people ARE THREATENED (by me, who is frightened of their direction)  
when my glazed dog-eyed innocence passes by smiling about the joint  
I smoked at lunch.  
Lisa M. Campana

**YOUR OWN PERSON**  
Each one of us born with two arms, two legs and two eyes, one nose, one mouth.  
We're basically the same yet totally different.  
Caught by time and drowned in the pools of constricting circles, each made by another man's droplet of sweat.  
--Joyce Markunas

## CRYSTAL CONTRAST

The early morning dew christens the laurel bush.  
From the mouth of the brook the fog begins to gently push.  
A young boy can't decide what to be,  
While the whitecaps are breaking on the eternal sea.

The sunshine warms the flowers in the Robin's face,  
The swallow is here and gone without a trace.  
A philosopher is trying to understand his philosophy.  
While the whitecaps are breaking on the eternal sea.

The leaves are falling quickly from the trees,  
The butterflies flutter softly among the bees,  
A father and son can't seem to agree,  
While the whitecaps are breaking on the eternal sea.

The wind plays melody through the tall grass,  
The minnows dart in and around the small mouth bass,  
A college student is trying to earn a degree,  
while the whitecaps are breaking on the eternal sea.

The sunfish dance on the riverbed state,  
The pebbles tumbling in the current mimic rage,  
Some people are fighting to be free,  
While the whitecaps are breaking on the eternal sea.

The clouds paint a portrait on the ezel sky,  
The canadian geese, heading south, tip their wings goodbye,  
A dictator issues his decree,  
while the whitecaps are breaking on the eternal sea.

The sun's rays carve diamonds on the brooks bubbling face,  
The lady slippers grow in and around the Queen Anns lace,  
A poor man sounds an urgent plea,  
while the whitecaps are breaking on the eternal sea.

The chickadees and sparrows feed together as one,  
The cat and dog warm to the noon day sun,  
A poet is trying to understand his poetry,  
while the whitecaps are breaking on the eternal sea.

The night is ushered in by the rising moon,  
The crickets and toads chorus a distant tune.  
My love whispers softly as her arms are surrounding me,  
while the whitecaps are rolling on the eternal sea.

Merril

## Symbolism:

Dedicated to communications majors

The following is over forty years old but is still pertinent:

I am ♂ and you are ♀;  
Am'rous war shall rage between us--  
War in which, as ♂ my ♀  
Is to orbit toward ♂,  
While ♀ you pretend,  
And ♂ to my end.  
A ♀ knows dissatisfaction  
A ♂  
Since (as always in these wars)  
♀ → at last to ♂:  
My ♂ of love you'll give again ♀  
X eight or ten.  
Which translates:  
Am'rous war shall rage between us--  
War in which, as male, my function  
Is to orbit toward conjunction,  
While reluctance you pretend,  
And opposition to my end.  
A female knows dissatisfaction  
A reversible reaction  
Since (as always in these wars)  
Venus yields at last to Mars;  
My sum of love you'll give again  
Multiplied by eight or ten.

## Think about it

It is easier to do your job right than to explain why you did it wrong.

When you are right, you can afford to keep your temper; when you are wrong, you can't afford to lose it.

Our language has widely sensed the two sides of man's being alone. It has created the word "loneliness" to express the pain of being alone. And it has created the word "solitude" to express the glory of being alone.

There is no comparison between that which is lost by not succeeding and that which is lost by not trying.

Stop discrimination! Hate everybody!

Pretty soon we all may be able to walk on water.

Why is it that a heavy rain washes away tons of topsoil, but doesn't remove an ounce of dust from your car?

Being a good listener isn't as easy as it sounds; looking interested for a long time is very tiring on the eyebrows!

If we learn from our mistakes, then I am getting a fantastic education.

Never put off till tomorrow what you can avoid altogether.

If ants are so busy, how come they have time to go to so many picnics?

When I was young, I was told that anybody could grow up to be President, and now I'm beginning to believe it!

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Life is full of unanswered questions such as: Is there intelligent life elsewhere in the universe? And if so, do they wear socks?

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Schlitz.

Therefore, as your Dean of Beer, I suggest you research the essential rightness of the word for yourself at your next social function. Or even your next antisocial function.

And please note: The recommended source material for locating the word can be found in any phone booth. In other words, look in the Yellow Pages. Under "Beer."

Thank you.

**THERE'S JUST ONE WORD  
FOR BEER.**



**AND YOU KNOW IT.**



**PHOENIX SPRING BEVERAGE COMPANY**  
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# Fractured Falcon

## News Briefs

(Iowa City) Gay rights opponent, Anita Bryant, while speaking at a press conference to the Iowa chapter of the League of woman voters, was victimized by an avowed homosexual, posing as a photographer who threw a fruit pie in her face. When questioned about the incident, Miss Bryant stated that "We can only hope that the good Lord will take pity on this poor man's soul." Miss Bryant also stated something to the affect that she hoped that the local police "Sliced the bastards testicles off."

(Fitchburg) Employees of the Easy-does-it Construction Company, best known for their work on Boston's Hancock Building, claimed to have discovered a 1927 Studebaker with what appears to be a skeleton of a former Fitchburg State alumni, while digging underground late yesterday afternoon. Investigators theorize, after examining the remains, that the student evidently died while searching for a parking space on what is now called Highland Ave. Removal of the remains was hindered because of the abundance of parking tickets found underneath the windshield. The police hope to remove the body by late next spring when a parking space should be found.

(Fitchburg) Police today are still searching for the whereabouts of a hijacked Fitchburg State College bus enroute to the Buttercup Lounge early last night. Authority's feel that this may be the work of some demented terrorist organization attempting to use the passengers as hostages. Rumor has it that the group is demanding, among other things, an extension of the happy hour, and reduced prices of drinks. Police reject the "demented organization" theory, stating that "The Mohawks were all at a movie last night."

## Gay News

Hiho fellas, Lance Lilypod and Frannie Fembod here, bringing you the latest from the gay front...Or rear (Titter-titter).

Thith month's activities include our firth danth, featuring The Bay Thity Bloweres..It will be boy-s choith, naturally. Tho get up on your tippy-toes and sashay down to the Uneager Beaver club thith Thatursday night and trip the light fantastic. Back to you, Frannie-dear...

Ooh! it sounds simply delicious, Lance, but that's not all. A week from next Tuesday is our annual Pot-Luck Supper featuring Fig Newton a' la'mode', and entertainment provided by Anita Bryant and her fruitcake quartet...and last but not least, our homosexual hockey season opens up next week with the Gay Blades of Montreal prancing to New York to meet the Rangerettes. Well, Frannie, until next week, watch out for thothe body checkth! (Giggle-Giggle)

## The last tango in Fitchburg

The following sequence of events is a factual account of one average Americans families trials and tribulations on Monday, the 31st of October, better known as Halloween night. Any coincidence between the characters in the account, and another well-known family was in no way meant to be a coincidence. Also, the substance and quality of the account is no way representing the opinions of the editor or any of his immediate staff. No, the names have not been changed to protect the innocent. And furthermore, the food in the cafeteria still stinks.

### The Players

Jimmy: Head of the Family  
Chip: Head of the family (Literally)

Amy: Resident brat, who has a weird fetish for treehouses

Billy: Token obnoxious drunk  
Roselyn: Never went to Fitchburg State

Miz Lillian: 80 years old and still hummin'

Bert: Friend of the family, a regular whizz at math.

(Knock on door, Woman answers)

Jimmy: Trick or treat, Ma'am, and you can depend on it!

Woman: How cute! Say, where did you get those funny looking teeth?

Billy: He won 'em off a beaver in a poker game you old bat-leaxe!

Now get your ass in gear and lets see some treats.

Miz Lillian: Now Billy, be nice.

Billy: Burp!

Amy: Hey lady, you gotta treehouse?

Roselyn: Not now, Amy.

Chip: Ow wow, man! What a trip!

Roselyn: Chip, you promised me that you wouldn't smoke that stuff anymore.

Chip: Hey man, like I couldn't help it, like, you know? I mean, some weirdo in a red suit had this unbelievable bong, ya know, and like he had all these reindeer...and like, they could fly..

Roselyn: That's enough, Chip!

Miz Lillian: The hellwith that, Rosie, babie; keep talkin Chip!

Jimmy: Mother! You don't

mean to say...

Miz Lillian: You don't think I got this old eatin' yogurt, do ya?

Chip...And then there were these little guys!...The fat guy called 'im elves, like...

Roselyn: That is enough, Chip! (Woman gives them candy)

All: (Except Billy, that is) Thank you!

Billy: Eat it, Honey!

Bert: Ho! Ho! Ho!

Chip: Hey, like wow, Bert! You know the guy too?

Amy: Let's go build a treehouse!

Jimmy: Now Amy, you know what happened the last time I let you build a treehouse, You took the wood from the Russian Embassy.

(Family moves on to next house, and are greeted by fictitious former president of the United States, Dick Nixon:)

(Jimmy knocks on door)

Nixon: I swear to God I was at the movies!...you can ask anyone!

Jimmy: We're not here to accuse you of anything, we just want some tricks or treats, you dirty crook.

Nixon: (Family moves on to next house, and are greeted by fictitious former president of the United States, Dick Nixon:)

Billy: wud 'e say, Jimmy?

Jimmy: I can't say that I rightly know, it sounded like he erased his voice.

Nixon: Yes, it happened once before.

Amy: Let see some treats!

Nixon: Sorry, I just ran out...say, how would you like an autographed copy of Leonid Brezhnev with a dress on?

Chip...And there was this reindeer, like, his nose glowed in the dark, ya know?...And...

Roselyn: Chip, please?

Amy: When I get older, I'm gonna marry me a treehouse!

Bert: Don't be foolish, Amy. You can't go 'roun marryin' treehouses!

Billy: Why not, Bert? You did.

(Family moves on to Rennee Richards house)

Knock on door. Butler answers)

Jimmy: Is the man of the house in?

Butler: Well...yes and no.

(Renee Enters)

Renee, (in deep voice) Anyone for tennis?

All: Trick or Treat!

Renee: Oh aren't they sweet!

Billy: Hey, Bawh, ...I mean girl...I don't know what the hell I mean. Lookee here you transvestite, we're in a hurry, howsa'bout our treats?

Renee: Oh sure! Here, I'll give you each a copy of my new book. "Tennis Without Balls."

All: (Taking Books) Thank you ma'am...

(Family leaves and goes down street to imaginary former President Gerald Ford's house)

(Knock! Knock!)

(Betty Ford, imaginary wife of imaginary former president, answers door)

Betty: Oh hi! My name's Betty Ford and I believe in speaking honestly and frankly...Say, did you know that one of my sons was gay?

Gerry: Uh, Betty.

Betty:...And then my only daughter had an affair with an 89-year-old whino!

Roselyn: No!

Betty: Yes!...And then my other son threw the old goat in the bathtub while he was recharging his pacemaker.

Roselyn: Why, that's awful!

Betty: Yes, wasn't it though?...And you should have seen the bill we got from the electric company.

Amy: Can I see your treehouse?

Billy: (Holding his pants) Can I see your bathroom?

Bert: CAN I see your bank-book?

Chip: Can I see your plants? (After a while, the family collects their candy and heads home.)

Billy: Somehow, ah git the feelin' they didn't like us.

Jimmy: Why's that, brother Billy?

Billy: Cuz' they gave me an apple with a razor in it.

Jimmy: You didn't eat it, did you?

Billy: Naw, what do you think I ahm, dum or sumthin'.

Jimmy: Well, that's a relief.

Billy: I gave it to Amy.

Amy: Gulp.

The End

## Students polled

In response to your letters and complaints regarding the problems that we, the students, face here at Fitchburg Stage College, the Rhetoric staff has taken it upon myself ... I mean, themselves to conduct a poll stating the thoughts and opinions of the student body concerning the various problems, both social and educational, here at the college ... you're welcome.

(1) What would you do to improve the social atmosphere at the college?

9 percent Tear down F.S.C.'s library and put up a nightclub.

13 percent Tear down F.S.C.'s cafeteria and put up a nightclub.

15 percent Tear down F.S.C.'s gymnasium and put up a nightclub.

73 percent Tear down F.S.C. and put up two nightclubs.

(2) What would you do if you were stuck on a deserted island with Anita Bryant?

13 percent Said they would kill Anita Bryant.

14 per cent Said they would kill themselves.

25 per cent said they would change their name to Lance.

47 percent said they would tear Anita Bryant down and put up a nightclub instead.

(3) What would you do to improve your love life?

22 percent said that they would move into Aubuchon.

22 percent said that they would move out of Aubuchon.

22 percent said that they would tear down Aubuchon and put up a nightclub instead.

(4) What should be done to improve the Rhetoric?

100 percent What Rhetoric?

(5) What should be done to improve the S.G.A.?

10 percent Hire Jimmy's friend Bert, and change their name to Lance

14 percent Tear down Dave Munroe's hair and put up a birdnest.

14 percent Tear down Dave Munroe's birdnest and put up some hair.

62 per cent Tear down Dave Munroe's hair and put up three nightclubs.

DISCLAIMER

In an attempt to appease the demented minds of the Rhetoric staff, not to mention various vegetables among the student body, the editor has kindly consented to initiate a newer, brighter, segment of the newspaper, called the "Fractured Falcon." Please send all complaints, bitches, money, and disgusted replies to:

Phineus J. Whoopee  
Box 0000

Outer Mongolia, or the college incinerator

Thank you.

This message was brought to you through the courtesy of the editor, and was made possible by a grant from the Prudential Life Insurance Company .. Get a piece of the rock.

In order to raise more funds for the benefit of the college newspaper, the RHETORIC is offering the latest in Halloween masks this fall:



AND FOR THE GERITOL SET (Would we forget you?) we present our "Dirty Old Man" facemask which is guaranteed to get those pacemakers pumpin, if that's what you're into. Two lower teeth sold separately.



THE FIRST IN OUR LINE of colorful originals is Fitchburg's own Emilio Pucci's "Deluxe'dome." This sure-to-be-a-hit original comes complete with a flip-top head for pleasant weather, not to mention extra space for carrying those treats.



ANOTHER TOP-FLIGHT MASK geared for that "new look" that is currently the rage, is our Vidal Sassoon-designed "Flip-face--guaranteed to scare the pants off that special person in your life, if you know what we mean. (Chortle-Chortle)

# Sounding board

By PORTER DODGE

Congrats go out to F.S.C. soccer team now 5-4 after their game with Boston U. Falcon Basketball starts the 15th of October under the command of ex-Falcon, Jim Todd. I know he'll do a great job as he has the hustle and the leadership to make a fantastic team out of the men.

Anyone for pool, ping-pong, pinball, etc.? Don't forget the gameroom located on the second floor of the Student Union Building. The pinball will cost you, but the pool table and ping-pong are free this year on one-half hour reservations. Use them, you pay for them with your Student Union fee.

It is rumored that F.S.C. was supposed to have top priority for an athletic complex. That was ten years ago. Today, as we all know, we have no athletic complex. I wonder which state college received our complex? Certainly, our athletic facilities are poorer than most area high schools, let alone colleges. A feature article on our complex is in the works. Hopefully, some questions will be answered.

Do you see an abundance of well dressed, well-behaved men and women roaming around the campus? Those, my friend, are pledges of the various sororities and fraternities on campus. I wonder what goes on during pledging? None have died yet ... ruling out some of the rumors.

It's good to see who sits one seat below the President here at the college. Dr. Carleton LaPole was a knowledgeable and excellent professor and I'm sure his progressive ideas will be welcomed here at "Fort No Change." LaPole is presently filling the position of Acting Assistant to the President. He has been around the campus and has seen both sides of the fence. I hope he can influence the administration on some progressive measures to improve the activities and facilities here.

As usual, it looks as though Coach Carson and his baseball charges will suffer through another season of playing on high school fields, renting practice fields (when the high schools are through) and practicing overnight in the already overcrowded gymnasium. It's a real shame that the college cannot provide its sports programs with adequate facilities. It can be really distressing and disappointing to play on a team and never know where or even when you can have practice before dark on any given day.

Perhaps the best idea is for the coaches to cancel the respective seasons and use the money for badly needed supplies and equipment. This would probably make the administration happy because then they won't have to shut the door in the faces of those trying to find some answer to when and where and when they are going to set some priorities for the athletic programs at the college. Why shouldn't they? Just take a good look at our facilities and try, I repeat, try to compare them with those of virtually any other state college. I say it's time for President Mara to see to it F.S.C. is well represented both academically and athletically.

Lastly, in case you are wondering where the \$ is going to be spent this year, it isn't on athletics. Dr. Guindon, Director of Planning and Development, says he is going to build elevators, make improvements for the handicapped, reroof buildings, and to build an electrical powerplant to supplement the new boiler rooms. For sure we'll have a warmer college. I only hope enough students will stick around to enjoy it.

(All contributions and ideas are welcome for this column.)

## Basketball ready for long season

The Junior Varsity will be coached this year by Gail Todd and are looking ahead for an improved season over last year. The J.V. roster is filled by: Patty Krzywicki, Anne Lally, Luisa McCarty Mary Poirier, Doty Proctor, JoAnn Re, Lu Reed, Donna Sweeney and Pauline Sullivan.

Coach Barbara Nole has chosen her Varsity basketball squad and is now preparing for the long season ahead. Those who made the team are: Lisa Adams, Claire Ambrosino, Sue Cashman, Patti Gardner, Chris Korona, Sheila Mitchell, Pam Peevey, Linda Reedy, Nancy Silun, and Robin Wills.



FSC REVIVED ITS SOCCER TEAM this year which has given fans many thrilling moments. From left are: coach Tony Ammendolia, cap-

tains Brian Quirk and Jay Connors, and assistant coach Fred Vona.

(Photo by Peter Chamberlain)

# Sporting Life

## Intramural football

### Pranksters prove to be a dynasty

Once again the Pranksters have taken the Men's Intramural football crown. They fought their way to the top, by going undefeated throughout the season. Pranksters are a well disciplined group of athletes, and truly tough competitors. Lombardi would have called them a "Dynasty."

On the other hand, over in division III the first place Fubars, enjoyed a great season by going unscored upon the entire season. They would face second place New Blood in the playoffs, who by the way, had but six points scored against their tough defense all season. On October 19,

Fubars met New Blood for the playoffs in their division. In a tough hard hitting game, played of course in mud and water up to their ankles, New Blood turned the tide and won 6-0. New Blood would now face the Pranksters for the championship.

October 20, at 4:30 New Blood kicked off to the Pranksters, who established great field position deep in New Blood territory. This would later prove a great advantage for the hard rushing Pranksters. The first half, you saw continually three downs and a punt and at the end of the half it was 0-0.

New Blood received the ball the second half and their drive went but a few yards. After a N.B. punt, and a nice return by the Pranksters, followed by a medium range pass the Pranksters found themselves deep in New Blood's territory once again. They couldn't score but their defense came through for them, catching the New Blood quarterback in the end zone for a safety and two points. A while later, a New Blood pass found its way into a Pranksters hand, and was run back for a T.D. Final score Pranksters 10, New Blood 0. With that the season ended... Pranksters are in first place.

## Field hockey team sticks to it

The Field Hockey team had an outstanding game against MIT winning by the score of 9-0. Co-captain Maureen McGee led the Falcons with three goals and Chris Bernard scored two to help the cause. Other FSC scorers were Diana Walker, Sheila Mitchell, MaryAnne Young and co-captain Laurie Pierce.

Coach Jan Onuska tried the new link system to help bolster the Falcons front line. This system allows a roving defense to help on the offense while still being able to get back and play

defense. The team used this system with obvious success and with a little more practice they will start racking up the wins.

In their second game using this system the women lost to a very tough Westfield State team by the score of 3-0. They gave an excellent effort but had the disadvantage of playing on a very fast artificial surface which they were not used to. What they are used to is the disadvantage of having a home field that has grass that is too long and holes that are a foot deep.

## Netters winding up season

Joyce Downey's tennis team is going into its final week with some good wins and some fine individual efforts on the records.

Pat Reardon and Mary Gates playing second doubles have turned in some outstanding efforts, particularly against the league leading Boston State team. The two came out victorious despite the fact that they played the third and deciding set in almost total darkness. Helen and Judy Valenti are having a winning season playing in the

first doubles spot.

Lisa Pelletier has had to move up from second singles to first and is turning in good performances against really tough opponents. With a little more seasoning Lisa will prove to be a stalwart for the team in coming years. Newcomer Denise Campagna also shows a lot of promise with a lot of tough wins this year.

## Some got it; and some don't

Dave Cowens has it; so does Pele.

Bill Russell and Bruce Jenner and Mark Spitz had it. The Boston Celtics will always have it.

What is it? I don't know exactly, but I'd say it's somewhere in between desire and pride; and believe it or not Fitchburg State College's soccer team has found it. You won't believe it until you go and see them play, but it pervades the atmosphere. You can't see it or touch it; it's quite intangible, but the feeling is there and best of all, these guys have it in their midst and they know it.

Good luck for the rest of the season, gentlemen, and remember: Whatever happens, keep your heads up, especially when going downfield.

Identify the big stiff in Candida's apartment. How will Candida react when Santa comes again? Watch for this thrilling episode, "Candida Has a Ball"! The Cleg-horn sounds the trump of--doom? Will outraged, or outrageous, virtue triumph? Or even Honda?

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